

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner enter this amendment and examine the claims, as amended. This amendment cancels claims 8, 11, 13, 14, 21, 24, 25, 28, 30, and 34, leaving only claims 1-7, 9, 10, 12, 15-20, 22, 23, 26, 27, 29, 31-33, and 35 pending. After this amendment, the current application contains 3 independent claims pending and 25 total claims pending.

In addition, Applicants have amended claims 1, 15, 23, and 26 to correct some minor typographical and clerical errors. Because these amendments are being made solely to correct typographical and clerical errors, and not in response to an art rejection, any narrowing amendment to the claims in the present response is not to be construed as a surrender of any subject matter between the original claims and the present claims; rather this is merely an attempt at providing one or more definitions of what the applicant believes to be suitable patent protection. The present claims provide the intended scope of protection that the applicant is seeking for this application. Therefore, no estoppel should be presumed, and the applicant's claims are intended to include a scope of protection under the Doctrine of Equivalents.

Although no additional fees are believed to be due, permission is hereby given to charge any unforeseen fees to deposit account 50-1147.

Respectfully submitted,


Brian C. Altmiller
Reg. No. 37,271

12040 South Lakes Drive, Suite 101
Reston, VA 20191
(703) 707-9110 (phone)
Customer No. 23400